

Leroy D. Baca, Sheriff

## **Press Release**

## OVERALL CRIME CONTINUES TO DECLINE IN AREAS PATROLLED BY THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

As of May 31, 2010, preliminary crime data shows that criminal homicides in Sheriff's patrol areas have decreased by 17.24 percent, compared to the same year-to-date period last year (86 homicides last year compared to 72 this year). This follows a five-year continuous decrease, resulting in nearly half as many homicides as there were five years ago and the lowest homicide rate since 1975. Most notable were decreases in homicides in the Century Station area (which includes the city of Lynwood and nearby unincorporated areas) and Compton Station area (including the city of Compton and nearby unincorporated areas). Century Station had 16 homicides during the same period last year, as compared to 10 homicides this year, for a 37.2 percent decrease. Compton Station homicides have reduced by 38.2 percent, with 21 homicides last year compared to 13 this year.

Reported incidents of violent crimes (Part I) have declined 7.19 percent, and serious property crimes (Part I) have declined by 4.73 percent in Sheriff's patrol areas countywide, compared to last year at this time. These numbers combine to show a 5.22 percent decrease in overall Part I crimes. Sheriff's stations experiencing the most significant decreases in overall violent crimes (Part I) over the same period last year included Walnut Station at 46.2 percent, Industry Station at 31.2 percent, Norwalk Station at 17 percent, and Compton Station at 16.5 percent.

"While our efforts have proved successful in reducing homicides and other serious crimes overall countywide, some Sheriff's patrol station areas have experienced a rise in particular crimes, such as burglary. Burglary is often a crime of opportunity which can often be prevented by ensuring that the doors and windows to your residence and vehicle are properly secured and that valuables are not left in plain sight in vehicles," stated Sheriff Lee Baca. Burglary and other crime prevention information, as well as reported crime statistics, can be found on the "Crime Prevention and Information" page of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department website, www.lasd.org.

Partner with the Sheriff's Department to prevent or report crime by contacting your local Sheriff's station. Or if you wish to remain <u>ANONYMOUS</u>, call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), texting the letters **TIPLA** plus your tip to CRIMES (274637), or using the website <a href="http://lacrimestoppers.org">http://lacrimestoppers.org</a>.